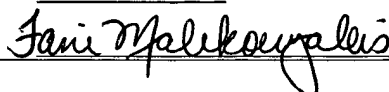


CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL"Express Mail" mailing label # EV 331559124 USDate of Deposit February 27, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service on the date indicated above and is addressed to the MS: PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Name of Depositor) Fani Malikouzakis

Signature of Depositor

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Koji KITA

Serial Number : To be Assigned

Filing Date : Concurrently Herewith

Priority Foreign Appl. No. : JP 2002-53464

Priority Date : February 28, 2003

For : IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND APPARATUS  
FOR RECOVERING READING FAULTS

---

MS: Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination please amend the application as follows: